

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5419
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of the Government have been drawn towards the news-item captioned 'Avoiding medical malpractice' appearing in Times of India July 30, 2001;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) if so, the steps are being taken by Government to see that the doctors do not refuse to treat people in accidents and emergency situations and follow a code of ethics; and
- (d) the further steps are being taken so that the Indian Medical Association does act on public complaints against doctors?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a)to (d): Yes, Sir. As per the Code of Medical Ethics prescribed by the Medical Council of India a physician should respond to any request for his assistance in an emergency or whatever temperate public opinion expects the service. The Medical Council of India and State Medical Councils are competent to take disciplinary action against the physicians for violation of Code of Ethics. The Indian Medical Association does not have any power to take action against doctors for violation of Medical Ethics, but it is constantly impressing upon the doctors to strictly follow the Medical Ethics.